GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:283
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2003
PROMOTION OF E GOVERNANCE
P.D. ELANGOVAN

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

:-

(a) whether the government have taken any steps and created software to enhance and promote e-governance in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of PCs installed and distributed in the Governmentoffices and the number of Internet connections provided, State-wise;

(d) whether the Government are facing any difficulty to implement the e-governance and computerization in all the Ministries and Departments;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to implement and authorize e-governance and e-communications in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SU THIRUNAVUKKARASAR)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Government set up National Informatics Centre (NIC)in 1975-76 for providing computer based (e-Governance) support to the Central Government Departments.E-Governance support ofNICwas extended to State Governments, U TAdministrations and Districts Administrations in the country from the year 1984-85.

NIC is now providingnetwork backbone and e-Governance support to the Central Government Departments, State Governments, UT Administrations and about 600 Districts in the country.

Many e-Governance applications have been developed in the area ofJudiciary, Agriculture, Rural Development, Land Records, Transport, Passport Services, Sales Tax, Customs and Excise,

Property Registration, Civil Pension/Social Welfare Pension, Public Grievances, Accounts etc. and have been made operational.

(c),(d),(e) and (f): The process of e-Governance, Computersationand provisioning of Internet is an on-going activity Government Departments are expected to build requisite infrastructure utilizing their budgetary resources.

Planning Commission guidelines permit usage of 2 to 3% of budget provision in Central Ministries / Departments for Computerisation/Information Technology related programmes/Schemes.

A minimum agenda for e-Governance has been drawn up for implementation by the Central Ministries/Departments. Details are at Annexure.

NIC is providing network services to Government users for Internet, e-mail, file transfer, database access etc. The number of internet connections provided by NIC tothe Central Government Department, State Governments, Union Territories, District Administrations and Government bodies are more than a lakh.

As regards number of PCsinstalled and distributed in the Government offices, the Government Departments buy PCs from their budget allocations.

Department of Information Technology through NIChas been assisting the Government Departments and State Governments in formulation of ICT Plans Sector-wise, Department-wise so as tousher in `digital opportunities` facilitating growth and development in the country.